GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1701
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2005
REVAMP OF PDS
Reddy Shri Karunakara G.

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to revamp the Public Distribution System (PDS) in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of various schemes under PDS available at present to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families in Karnataka;

(d) whether any survey has been conducted to identify BPL families in Karnataka, particularly in Bellary;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken or being taken to bring more families under this scheme and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) & (b): Streamlining of Public Distribution System (PDS) with a view to make it more effective, efficient and accountable is an ongoing process. Government constantly reviews the functioning of the PDS to make it more responsive.

(c): The following schemes are being implemented for the benefit of BPL families in the State.

1) Antyodaya Anna Yojana
2) Yellow card scheme
3) Identification of beneficiaries under Annapoorna scheme is in progress.

(d) & (e): Yes, Sir. Door-to-door re-survey programme is being taken up from 28.3.2005 to identify BPL families in Karnataka including Bellary. Orientation has accordingly been given to all the District level officers in the State.

(f) Detailed guidelines have been issued to identify eligible families by doing house to house survey. Formation of survey teams inclusive of NGO`s in the village has been done to achieve transparency. Survey to cover all the families residing both in rural and urban areas. Decision making would be done collectively by the Gram and Ward sabha. Specific parameters based on the income and expenditure criteria`s have been laid down separately for rural and urban areas for proper identification of BPL families. Survey teams and the supervisory officers have been made accountable and properly trained to achieve the desired result.